

Results from the Lidar Survey Specifications Summit Meeting

Christopher Macon, USACE
Michael O. Gonsalves, LT/NOAA

January 14 - 15, 2009 - Bay St. Louis, MS



Background

- 20+ attendees from 5 federal agencies
 - USACE, NAVO, NOAA, USGS, NGA
- Goal to develop common standards for airborne coastal mapping and charting
 - Bathy/Topo Lidar
 - RGB Imagery
 - Hyperspectral Imagery
- Support the IWG on Ocean & Coastal Mapping



Key Results

- Draft common specifications matrix
- Lidar Metadata template
- Standard Lidar exchange format
- Bathy Lidar Bulletin Board (CLICK)



Common Specifications Matrix

Data Description (metadata)

General	NOVOCETO	USA/CE	NOAA	USGS	Common Items (application dependent)	
Sensor Information						Environmental Modelling, Coastal Mapping Surveys
sensor type	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	Charting
sensor serial number	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
most recent lab and in situ calibrations with supporting documentation	most recent lab and in situ calibrations with supporting documentation	most recent lab and in situ calibrations with supporting documentation	most recent lab and in situ calibrations with supporting documentation	most recent lab and in situ calibrations with supporting documentation	most recent lab and in situ calibrations with supporting documentation	
sensor calibration date						
sensor of sets (lever arms)	contained in .prm file	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	contained in ops. config	describe in metadata	
Collection Information						
environmental observations relevant to processing	relevant to processing	relevant to processing	relevant to processing	relevant to processing	relevant to processing	
acquisition date / time	included in .nfr file	each shot	describe in metadata	each shot	describe in metadata	each shot
horizontal datum of acquisition	WGS84	NAD83	NAD83	WGS 84 (G150)		
vertical datum of acquisition	WGS84	NAD83	NAD83	WGS 84 (G150)		
metadata standard	open for discussion	FGDC	open for discussion	FGDC	Group well drafted inshore metadata template based on FGDC standards	
Hydrographic Lidar	NOVOCETO	USA/CE	NOAA	USGS	Common Items (application dependent)	
Sensor Information						Charting, Coastal Mapping, etc.
sensor type	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
sensor serial number	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
pixel width	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
Collection Information						
soil 91 vertices	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
soil 91 overlap	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
soil angle	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
soil rate	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
tying height (ADL)	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
alt. transform (relative power)	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
beam off set	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
side-coordinated (y/n)	shoreline runs	shoreline runs	as specified in project instructions	PO/OP: Coordinated	Provide means of conversion to tidal datum	Perform at high tide when possible
			2x2m @ 200% or 3x3m @ 200% or 4x4m @ 200% depending on tide range and other factors		2x3m or 3x3m (spot spacing must be considered in conjunction with coverage - see NOAA)	
horizontal shot spacing	3 m X 3 m	5 m		3m x 3m		4m spacings
Topographic Lidar	NOVOCETO	USA/CE	NOAA	USGS	Common Items (application dependent)	
Sensor Information						Charting, Coastal Mapping, etc.
sensor type	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
PRF	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
pixel width	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
Collection Information						
soil 91 vertices	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
soil 91 overlap	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
soil angle	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
soil rate	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
tying height (ADL)	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
alt. transform (relative power)	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
beam off set	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
side-coordinated (y/n)	shoreline runs	shoreline runs	yes, as specified in project instructions	describe in metadata		Perform at low tide when possible
			2 m, or as specified in project instructions			
horizontal shot spacing	2 m X 2 m	3 m		3m x 3m		1x6 m

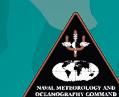
Hyperspectral Imagery		NOVOCOAST		USA/CE		NOAA		USGS		Consensus Items (application dependent)		
Sensor Information												
FOV	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
FOV	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
pixel length	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
CCD dimensions	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
NIR band required (y/n)	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	yes (min lower band edge 850 nm)	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
Users' cartography required	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	yes	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
Collection Information												
flying height (AGL)	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
pixel ground resolution	20 cm	c. 25 cm	c. 30 cm	c. 30 cm, as specified in project instructions.	70 cm	70 cm	70 cm	70 cm	70 cm	70 cm	70 cm	
near edge coverage (y/n)	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	yes	
wind/sea/label/alt	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	0.5m, 0.5m/0.5m or as specified in project	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	60% / 30%	60% / 30%	
side-coordinated (y/n)	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	yes (times specified as requiring tidal coordination should be flown during those times when the stage of tide is in the appropriate range)	describe in metadata	perform on low tide	perform on low tide	perform on low tide	perform on low tide	no	no	
sun angle	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	> 30 deg or as specified in project instructions	describe in metadata	> = 30 deg elevation	> = 30 deg elevation	> = 20 deg elevation	> = 20 deg elevation	> = 10 deg elevation	> = 10 deg elevation	
flight line patch permission	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	yes, begin second portion of a patch at least 2 images before the break	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
Min visibility	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	was made	describe in metadata	8 miles	8 miles	8 miles	8 miles	Ground visible	Ground visible	
Hyperpectral Imagery												
NOVOCOAST		USA/CE		NOAA		USGS		Consensus Items (application dependent)				
Sensor Information												
FOV	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
FOV	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
pixel length	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
CCD dimensions	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
spec ch1 range	180-1050nm	VNR	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	VNR	VNR	VNR	VNR	VNR	VNR	RGB	
spec ch1 range (nm ranges)	180-1050nm	180-1050nm	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	180-1050nm	180-1050nm	180-1050nm	180-1050nm	180-1050nm	180-1050nm	3	
spec ch1 resolution	1nm	1nm	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	1nm	1nm	1nm	1nm	1nm	1nm	1nm	
Collection Information												
flying height (AGL)	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
pixel ground resolution at 1.2 m X 0.4 m	1.2 m X 0.4 m	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	18-20 cm/pixel @ 300m operating altitude	50cm	50cm	20cm RGB	20cm RGB	35-50 cm	35-50 cm	
side-coordinated (y/n)	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	yes (times specified as requiring tidal coordination should be flown during those times when the stage of tide is in the appropriate range)	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	
sun angle	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	> 30 deg or as specified in project instructions	describe in metadata	> = 30 deg elevation	> = 30 deg elevation	> = 20 deg elevation	> = 20 deg elevation	> = 10 deg elevation	> = 10 deg elevation	



Common Specifications Matrix

- Each agency gathered their internal specifications on a number of acquisition and processing parameters

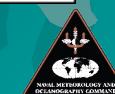
Hydrographic lidar	NAVOCEANO	USACE	NOAA	USGS
Data Processing Information				
data processing steps	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata or as spec	describe in metadata
water surface processing algorithm	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata	describe in metadata
bottom detection logic	first return	strongest return	describe in metadata	describe in metadata
vertical datum conversion method	application of WGS84 ellipsoid to datum distance	latest NGS geoid model, describe in metadata	VDatum	NGS code
horizontal datum projection method	N/A	describe in metadata	document	NGS code
method of data cleaning	manual, 4 person integrity	manual, fliers removed	describe in metadata or as specified in project instructions	manual
Product Information				
data format	.hof	ASCII	final product (NGS) = vector shoreline, final product (OCS) = nautical chart	NETCDF
horizontal datum	WGS84	NAD83	NAD83	WSG84(G1150)
vertical datum	chart datum (MLLW)	NAVD88	MHW / MLLW	WSG84(G1150)
horizontal accuracy	IHO Order 1, depth dependant, < 0.7 m	2 m 2σ	dependant on scale of nautical chart	1m
vertical accuracy	IHO Order 1, depth dependant, < 1.8 m	25 cm 2σ	as specified in project instructions	15cm



Common Specifications Matrix

- Where possible, consensus was reached based upon different applications.

Hydrographic lidar	Consensus Items (application dependent)	
	Charting	Environmental, Modeling, Coastal Mapping Surveys
Data Processing Information		
data processing steps	describe in metadata	
water surface processing algorit	describe in metadata	
bottom detection logic	"True" last return	Threshold detect -2 returns
vertical datum conversion meth		
horizontal datum projection me		
method of data cleaning	manual	
Product Information		
data format		
horizontal datum		
vertical datum		
horizontal accuracy	IHO Order 1 (~5.0m at 2 σ)	2.0m at 2 σ
vertical accuracy	IHO Order 1 (~0.5m at 2 σ)	0.3m at 2 σ



Common Specifications Matrix

- Considered:
 - Bathy/Topo Lidar
 - RGB Imagery
 - Hyperspectral Imagery
- Subdivided spec. based on application:
 - Charting
 - Environmental modeling, coastal mapping surveys
 - Emergency response



Common Specifications Matrix

- Topics of discussion:
 - Metadata
 - Data Collection Info
 - Positioning
 - Data Processing Info
 - Derived Product Info
 - QA/QC
- Results posted to JALBTCX website:
www.jalbtcx.org/standards.aspx



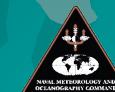
Common Specifications Matrix

Quality Assurance / Quality Control

Hydrographic lidar		Consensus Items	
		Coastline Survey	"Offshore" Survey
QA/QC Information			
ground truth			
	Every 25km (ideally performed 1-3 days prior to mainscheme acq. for coastal applications)	Ensure 90% of mainscheme lines are crossed	
cross check line comparisons			
line-to-line comparison	Should be performed		
repeat-line comparison	One interday line performed per day (ideally survey same line every day - like over ground control or GPS base station)		
ground truth comparison	In descending order of desirability: junction survey, beach profile, leadline, historic data		
Documentation	All QA/QC procedures should be documented to a level of permitting replication by a future user.		
Topographic lidar		Consensus Items	
		Coastline Survey	"On shore" Survey
QA/QC Information			
ground truth	For every 100 linear miles, collect 20 check points per environment surveyed (grass, under cover, hard ground) with a minimum of 30 points	No control point should be more than 10 miles from a laser spot (still with a minimum of 30 check points)	

All systematic biases should be removed from data such that preceding comparisons satisfy (± 10 cm vertical at 2σ) - document observed bias.

This should include level of human involvement (vs. autoprocessing), a survey-scale qualitative check discussing any spatial distribution of errors, quantifying biases noted in above comparisons (cross-check, etc.).



Federal Workshop Metadata

Outcome

- FGDC Compliant metadata
- Most are moving to XML format (easier to automate metadata generators)
- Even though metadata is FGDC compliant, it does not always include enough information to determine if the data will meet your needs
- Additional Keyword Thesauri help metadata harvesters increase the distribution of the data
- Addition of a “Lidar” section to the metadata file
- Group formed from USGS, NOAA, and USACE to address these issues and produce a template and examples

Federal Workshop Metadata Outcome

Description of data set contents including, but not limited to, survey platform, sensor information (i.e. sensor type, resolution), data coverage, data processing, data product details (i.e. data file format, file naming conventions), and spatial reference information. Provides the data user enough basic information to be able to determine if the data set will meet their project needs.

Purpose:

Description of the intended use and limitations of the data set.

Supplemental Information: Additional details related to data acquisition and processing.

Keyword Thesaurus:

ISO 19115 Topic Category, NASA/Global Change Master Directory (GCMD) Earth Science Keywords, GCMD Instrument Keywords, GCMD Data Center Keywords

Lidar Metadata Section

GPS Sensor Information

- Monument Information
- Observation Information
 - Antenna type, serial number, etc.
 - Receiver type, serial number, etc.
 - Rover information
 - Length of collection, max distance from rover, max PDOP, max bank of rover

Inertial Reference Information

- IMU information
 - Type, model, serial number, calibration, orientation

Topographic Lidar Laser

- Type, serial number, calibration date, PRF, distance between returns, swath width, power, divergence, area of ground covered by spot

Hydrographic Lidar Laser

- Type, serial number, calibration date, PRF, distance between returns, swath

Lidar Metadata Section

Camera Information

- Type, model, serial number, field of view, focal length, CCD resolution, calibration date

Hyperspectral Information

- Type, model, serial number, field of view, focal length, calibration date, CCD specs, spectral range, amount of bands, band width

Camera Collection Information

- AGL, ground resolution, stereo coverage (Boolean), end lap, side lap, tide coordinated (Boolean), min sun angle, visibility, flight line patch (Boolean)

Hyperspectral Collection Information

- AGL, ground resolution, side lap, tide coordinated (Boolean), min sun angle
- Comparison of data between flight lines
- Detailed description of flight line QA/QC comparison
- Distance between crossing lines, vertical separation of crossing lines, line-to-lines, and repeat lines

Lidar Metadata Section

Topographic Lidar Processing

- Return type, processing algorithm, horizontal/vertical datum conversion method/model, data cleaning/editing method/model

Hydrographic Lidar Processing

- water surface algorithm, bottom detection logic/algorithm, horizontal/vertical datum conversion method/model, data cleaning/editing method/model

RGB Image Processing

- Orthorectification processing method, processing algorithm, horizontal datum conversion method/model

Hyperspectral Image Processing

- Orthorectification processing method, processing algorithm, horizontal datum conversion method/model

Lidar Exchange Format

- To develop a standard data format for lidar data
- Developed among Jan Depner (NAVO) Amar Nayegandhi (USGS)



Bathy Lidar Bulletin Board

 **USGS**
science for a changing world

Center for LIDAR Information Coordination and Knowledge

Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) [Gallery](#) [Calendar](#) [Members](#) [Search](#) [Help](#)

Welcome Guest ([Log In](#) | [Register](#))

▶ [Light Detection and Ranging \(LIDAR\) BB](#)

Welcome back; your last visit was: Today, 12:52 PM
Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) BB latest news: [Laser Scanning - It's All About the Details](#) | [LiDAR News](#)

User Name

▶ Welcome to CLICK!

Forum	Topics	Replies	Last Post Info
Welcome! Welcome to the USGS Center for LIDAR Information Coordination and Knowledge (CLICK). Our goal is to help facilitate understanding, coordination, data access, communication and knowledge concerning lidar data for scientific needs. We hope you can use the tools we have provided to the fullest to help create information out of lidar data. We encourage you to register to keep abreast of new information posted here. Registering will allow you to post topics and replies, as well as subscribe to a forum to get emailed updates. Subforums: Announcements	5	0	Oct 21 2009, 08:01 AM In: Lidar Conference Call for Abst... By: Jordan Menig
General LIDAR and/or CLICK Questions Questions about light detection and ranging technology- the who's, what's where's and why's. Any lidar-related question can be posted here. IPB You can also post questions concerning how to use the bulletin board as well as questions about the board's functionality here. Forum Led by: Jason Stoker	84	229	Sep 28 2009, 09:37 AM In: full waveform LiDAR By: Sona
Available / Wanted Data Questions A place to inform and describe to others about point cloud data you have available to share, or data you are looking for. CLICK is interested in collecting all quality publicly available datasets. Subforums: Looking for data , Looking for Collection Partners Forum Led by: Jordan Menig	55	71	Oct 10 2009, 01:10 AM In: LiDARXCHANGE Announces the FRE... By: maziar
Software / Hardware Solutions A place to ask and answer questions regarding how tos: on processing algorithms, software, and hardware. Subforums: Bare Earth Questions , Training Opportunities , Official Terrasolid Support Forum , ESRI Lidar Support Group , Official Applied Imagery Support Forum , Official ITT ENVI LiDAR Forum Forum Led by: Jason Stoker	404	734	Nov 7 2009, 07:23 AM In: TerraPhoto aerotriangulation By: Anthony
File Format Questions A place to discuss file formats- ASCII, .las, .ebn, .bin, etc... Subforums: LAS Discussion Forum Forum Led by: John Kosovich	65	156	Nov 5 2009, 05:01 PM In: lasboundary.exe By: Martin Isenburg

Bathy Lidar Bulletin Board

- CLICK - <http://lidarbb.cr.usgs.gov>
- Hosted by USGS

A forum to facilitate understanding, coordination, data access, communication and knowledge concerning lidar data for scientific needs.

- Give Jason a chance to plug CLICK

